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SOURCE As indicated

CHINESE HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS
IN SOUTHWEST AND NORTHWEST ASIAN TERRITORIES 1945

's of August 1953, 17,000 kilometers of highways were opened to traffic in the Northwest, and, by January 1954, 19,000 kilometers of highways were opened to traffic. Much of the highway construction in the Northwest is in areas inhabited mostly by the minority nationality groups.

Construction of a steel bridge over the Lu Chiang (Solween River), one of the longest bridges on the Sikang-Tibet Highway, has just been completed.]

SILANG-TIBET HIGHWAY IN SOUTHWEST -- K'un-ming, Yunnan Jih-pao, 17 Aug 53

Chungking, 13 August -- Construction of highways in the Southwest is progressing rapidly. Aside from the Sikang-Tsinghai Highway, the principal highway in the Southwest under construction, about 1,000 kilometers of other highways are being built or repaired, and the construction of an additional 1,000 kilometers is being projected. By June 1953, there was a total of 16,500 kilometers of highways opened to traffic in the Southwest.

Construction of the Su-nan-T'ung-jen Highway in Kweichow Province, a distance of 196 kilometers, was completed, and the highway was connected with a highway which leads northward to Chungking, southward to Kwei-yang, westward to Chen-yuan, and eastward to various cities in Hunan Province.

Completion of the Ta-ting--Pu-ting Highway and the Hui-shui--Lo-t'ien Highway, both highways in Kweichow Province, has provided the minority

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groups along these highways with the outlets for their products, and the country with the sources of various raw materials needed in capital construction.

MORE ROADS FOR AREA INHABITED BY MINORITY NATIONALITY GROUPS -- K'un-ming, Yunnan Jih-pao, 18 Aug 53

(Hsin-hua She) -- Of the total of 17,200 kilometers of highways now open to traffic in the Northwest, about 1,500 kilometers are in areas in Sinkiang, Kansu, and Tsinghai inhabited mostly by the minority nationality groups. During 1953, the Central People's Government is spending one and a half times the amount of funds which has been spent for the construction of highways in the Northwest during the past 3 years to build an additional 1,400 kilometers of highways in the Northwest. More than half of them are in the areas inhabited mostly by the minority nationality groups.

19,000 KILOMETERS OF HIGHWAYS OPEN IN NORTHWEST -- Hong Kong, Ta Kung Pao, 11 Jan 54

Sian, 9 January -- More than 2,200 kilometers of highways were newly built or repaired in the Northwest during 1953. The principal newly constructed highways were the Hsi-ning--Ch'a-la-p'ing section of the Tsinghai-Tibet Highway, the Ho-k'ou--Hsi-ning section of the Kansu-Tsinghai Highway, the Lin-hsia--Hsi-t'ang section of the Lanchow--Lang-mu-ssu Highway, and the Fu-yun--Chi-mu-nai Highway in the Northern part of Sinkiang. With the opening of about 1,300 kilometers of highways to traffic during 1953, a total of 19,000 kilometers of highways in the Northwest are now open to traffic.

The improvement of the highway network in the Northwest is contributing greatly to the development of the national wealth and to the improvement of the living standard of the people in the Northwest. Most of the numerous bridges on the 800-kilometer highway from Lanchow to Yu-men used to have a maximum load capacity of 8-15 tons; now all of them have the maximum load capacity of 20 tons. The strengthening of the bridges has greatly increased the volume of transportation of crude oil from Yu-men to the nearest railway terminal. From there trains take the crude oil to the refineries in Shanghai and the Northeast.

Completion of construction of the Hsia-hc--Lang-mu-ssu Highway and repairs to the highway from Lang-mu-ssu to a highway in Szechwan Province has stimulated trade with the Tibetans living in the Kansu-Szechwan border area who are now able to exchange their products for goods manufactured in Yunnan province and in Lanchow.

STEEL BRIDGE OVER NU CHIANG COMPLETED -- Hong Kong, Ta Kung Pao, 27 Jan 54

Chungking -- Construction of a steel bridge over the Nu Chiang (Salween River), one of the longest bridges on the Sikkim-Tibet Highway, was completed by the troops of the People's Liberation Army and the civilian workers. The work on this bridge was begun on 12 October 1953, and was completed in 2 months.

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